



## **NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF MPOs SAFETY WORKING GROUP**

**June 17, 2020**

**Webinar**

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

### **MEETING NOTES**

#### **Participating**

- AGFTC - Jack Mance
- BMTS - Cyndi Paddick
- CDTC - Sandy Misiewicz
- DCTC - Emily Dozier
- ECTC - Mike Perry
- GBNRTC - Hector Boggio
- GTC - Alex Kone
- HOCTS – Alexander Turner
- OCTC - Ashlee Long
- OCTC – Lauren Burns
- SMTC - Mike Alexander
- UCTC - David Staas
- NYSDOT – Harriet Lewis
- NYSDOT – Christina Graveling
- NYSDOT – Geoffrey Wood
- NYSDOT - Robert Zitowsky
- NYSDMV - Chuck DeWeese
- CLRP - David Orr
- FHWA – Emmett McDevitt
- ITSMR - Renee Varone
- Cambridge Systematics - Danena Gaines
- Planning4Places – Kathy Ember

#### **1. Introductions**

Sandy Misiewicz opened the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

#### **2. Meeting Notes**

The May 20, 2020 meeting notes were accepted.

#### **3. CLEAR Update and Brainstorming**

Sandy Misiewicz noted that Regina Doyle and Andrew Sattinger could not make today's meeting but hopefully they can join us on the July call to provide an update on CLEAR and possibly demo the application. NYSDOT is working on some "activity based dashboards" for CLEAR. They are currently planning on the following dashboards:

- Open investigations per region for current ARWP (by NYSDOT Region)
- Completed HSIP projects in current year
- Action plan locations treated (multiple possible)
- Miles of CARDS installed
- Investigations completed

- Total fatalities compared to previous years per region
- Total serious injuries compared to previous years per region
- Miles of each Highway category - % of statewide
- Proportion of intersection crashes to total crashes per region

Sandy Misiewicz asked the Working Group what other activity based dashboards would be helpful? Sandy was thinking total fatalities and serious injuries compared to previous years at the MPO level. David Orr suggested including ped/bike and run-off the road crashes would be helpful. David also asked if there will be non-MPO areas as well and if the data will be broken down by ownership not just functional class. Alex Kone suggested that county or jurisdictional cross tabs would be helpful as well. David Staas suggested perhaps a filter rather than dashboard might be helpful. Emily Dozier asked about the previous years' data – is that customizable i.e. 3-year rolling average? Jack Mance suggested that specific performance measures dashboards would be helpful. Sandy Misiewicz will send these ideas to Andrew Sattinger and will include this topic on the July Safety Working Group agenda. Please send Sandy an email if you have additional thoughts on dashboards.

#### **4. Regulating E-bikes and E-scooters**

Sandy Misiewicz reviewed the publication: "Regulating E-Bicycles and E-Scooters: Issues and Options – A Guide for New York Communities" from Cornell Law School. Sandy reviewed the material which includes an overview of the new law, a discussion on the differences between personal use vehicles and shared systems and draft ordinance language. Provisions for e-bikes took place immediately following adoption of the legislation, however, provisions related to e-scooters have an effective date of August 1, 2020. Municipalities can pass local laws further regulating where e-bikes and e-scooters park, safety requirements and other aspects of their use. There are also specific provisions for NYC and Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester counties. NYC allows class three e-bikes up to 25 MPH where class one and two devices have speed limits up to 20 MPH. E-bike parking is only okay on a sidewalk if permitted by the municipality (consistent with ADA provisions and it also cannot interfere with pedestrian free passage). The draft ordinances are intended to be mixed and matched and the audience is for municipalities outside of NYC. The publication including the draft ordinances are posted on the Shared Mobility NYSAMPO webpage at: [https://020d8ef1-4eed-483f-a588-33a6c3d2f42f.filesusr.com/ugd/3ff9d0\\_60b1e2e5b403439eb7f407a635fec723.pdf](https://020d8ef1-4eed-483f-a588-33a6c3d2f42f.filesusr.com/ugd/3ff9d0_60b1e2e5b403439eb7f407a635fec723.pdf) Emily Dozier asked about if personal vehicles can be used on the street? Sandy Misiewicz reviewed the regulations and noted that it is correct that personal vehicles are street legal and not sidewalk legal (per 2020 NY Chapter 58, Part XX, Section 1-10). However, a local law can be passed to ban their use.

#### **5. June Pedestrian Campaigns**

Sandy Misiewicz noted "See and Be Seen" is on hold due to COVID-19 but there will be a visibility campaign around Halloween. Sandy shared some sample social media posts adapted from GTSC and NYSDOT materials. Sandy noted that a social media campaign is important as pedestrians and bicyclists have gotten used to lower vehicle traffic and vehicles are now increasingly on the road. These posts can be tailored as needed. Emily Dozier asked if CDTC will be rolling these out on a certain schedule. Emily Dozier has some minor comments that she will send via email. Sandy Misiewicz can resend out to the group next week. David Orr asked how to reach a non-digital audience? Sandy is hoping that flyers can be hung up in libraries or houses of worship as they reopen. David Orr reported that CLRP

has mailed out flyers to some communities & Cooperative Extension offices and that would be helpful to reach out to rural communities. Sandy Misiewicz asked that comments be sent by the end of the week so the social media posts can be updated. Chuck DeWeese noted that while there is not a formal hashtag, GTSC uses "See and Be Seen" and "Ped Safety" as hashtags in their social media posts.

## **6. Partner Updates**

- a. NYS DOT: Robert Zitowsky reported that the Roadway Departure meeting will be held on July 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 with stakeholders. CLEAR is progressing well. The safety performance targets have not been approved yet.
- b. ITSMR: No report.
- c. GTSC: Chuck DeWeese reported that the Highway Safety Plan can be submitted in August. The grant deadline has been extended to June 1<sup>st</sup> and they did get higher dollar value submissions however there is not enough money to award all the projects. ITSMR data shows that the state is down 21 fatalities from Jan-May 15<sup>th</sup> compared to 2019. There had been a 70% reduction in VMT. VMT is now back up again. The troubling statistic is that there have been 36 motorcycle fatalities compared to 18 last year. GTSC will be sending out a press release about watching for motorcyclists. This will be studied further to come up with appropriate countermeasures to address this issue. GTSC is doing a lot of social media postings. State traffic enforcement is also back on the road, however due to budget cuts there will not be enforcement for the Safe Routes to School Program and some cities are noting that local police will not be doing traffic enforcement due to municipal budgets. Sandy Misiewicz asked if automated enforcement will be increased? Chuck DeWeese noted that nothing has happened at the federal level so far.
- d. Cornell Local Roads Program: David Orr stated that CLRP is continuing to do one webinar per week through the summer. Sandy Misiewicz noted that a link to programs is found on the agenda.
- e. FHWA: No report.
- f. NYSATS: No report.

## **7. Training/Conferences**

Sandy Misiewicz noted a helpful Roadway Departure webinar and that a road curves analyst tool for ArcGIS was discussed. Has anyone else used this? Robert Zitowsky is trying to use it currently. Sandy Misiewicz will send the recording of the webinar to everyone when it is available. This webinar provided some ideas as to how to address the data gap on local roads. Other trainings and conferences are listed on the agenda. Emily Dozier noted a Ped/Bike Info Center webinar on the FHWA (Training 7A) STEP UP Campaign for Pedestrian Safety which highlighted the "spectacular 7 countermeasures" – i.e. crosswalk visibility enhancements, HAWKS, RRFBs, etc. They are also collecting pictures of these installed countermeasures.

## **8. Meeting Schedule/Other Topics**

The meeting schedule is posted on the agenda. David Orr also noted that there is a movement for adding seating for restaurants in public roadways (and the right-of-way) and he noted that it needs to be carefully considered. David suggested using sand barrels as a protective measure. Sandy Misiewicz is gathering information on communities who are considering adding dining in the roadways which can be shared on the next call.

## **Action Items**

The following items were noted for follow-up:

- Please send Sandy Misiewicz an email about thoughts on what CLEAR dashboards MPO staff would find helpful.
- Please also send Sandy any comments on the June Pedestrian Campaigns social media posts as well by June 19th.